

CLAIMS

1. An image-information recording device, comprising:

image-information obtaining means for obtaining, from predetermined image data, image information regarding the image data; and

image-information recoding means for recording, as image information data, the obtained image information onto a storage medium,

wherein the image information data is recorded on the storage medium in a distributed manner.

2. An image-information recording device, comprising:

image-information obtaining means for obtaining, from predetermined image data, image information regarding the image data; and

image-information recoding means for recording, as an image-information file group, the obtained image information onto a storage medium,

wherein the image-information file group includes multiple representative image files that hold predetermined representative images of the image data, and

the multiple representative image files are recorded on the storage medium in a distributed manner.

3. The image-information recording device according to claim 2, further comprising:

an image information memory for holding image information; and

image-information storing means for storing the obtained image information in the image information memory,

wherein the image-information recording means records the image information, stored in the image information memory, in the image-information file group on the storage medium.

4. The image-information recording device according to claim 2, further comprising:

medium-type determining means for determining a type of the storage medium,

wherein the image-information recording means switches between recording systems for the storage medium, in accordance with a result of the determination performed by the medium-type determining means.

5. The image-information recording device according to claim 4, wherein the medium-type determining means determines a reflectance of the storage medium; and

when the reflectance of the storage medium is higher than a predetermined value, the image-information recording means records a new image-information file group without overwriting the image-information file group recorded in the storage medium.

6. The image-information recording device according to

claim 2, wherein the representative images in the multiple representative image files are each identified with a representative-image identifier that is unique in all the multiple representative image files.

7. The image-information recording device according to claim 2, wherein the representative images in the multiple representative image files are each identified with a file identifier for identifying one of the multiple representative image files and a representative-image identifier for identifying each representative image in the representative image file identified with the file identifier.

8. An image-information display device, comprising:

attribute obtaining means for obtaining attributes of image information regarding predetermined image data from image information data in which the image information is recorded on a storage medium in a distributed manner;

condition inputting means for prompting input of a search condition regarding an attribute of the image information and receiving the input;

condition searching means for searching the attributes of the image information in accordance with the input search condition;

representative-image obtaining means for obtaining representative images of the image data from the image

information data in accordance with a result of the searching performed by the condition searching means; and displaying means for displaying a list of the obtained representative images.

9. An image-information display device comprising:

attribute obtaining means for obtaining attributes of image information regarding predetermined image data from an image-information file group in which the image information is recorded on a storage medium in a distributed manner;

condition inputting means for prompting input of a search condition regarding an attribute of the image information and receiving the input;

condition searching means for searching the attributes of the image information in accordance with the input search condition;

representative-image obtaining means for obtaining representative images of the image data from the image-information file group in accordance with a result of the searching performed by the condition searching means; and

displaying means for displaying a list of the obtained representative images.

10. The image information display device according to claim 9, further comprising:

an image information memory for holding image information,

wherein the attribute obtaining means holds the obtained attributes in the image information memory;

the condition searching means searches the attributes held in the image information memory in accordance with the input search condition;

the representative-image obtaining means holds the obtained representative images in the image information memory; and

the displaying means displays a list of the representative images held in the image information memory.

11. The image-information display device according to claim 9, further comprising:

link-information extracting means for extracting link information indicating relationships between the representative images and the image data from the image-information file group;

image selecting means for receiving an input of a selected representative image of the displayed representative image list; and

image reproducing means for identifying the image data associated with the selected representative image based on the link information and reproducing the image data.

12. An image-information recording method for an image-information recording device including an image information memory for holding image information for image data and

means for recording, as an image-information file group, the image information onto a storage medium, wherein the image-information file group includes multiple representative image files that hold predetermined representative images of the image data, the image-information recording method comprising:

- a step of obtaining, from predetermined image data, image information regarding the image data;

- a step of storing the obtained image information in the image information memory; and

- a step of recording, as the multiple representative image files, the representative images in the image information stored in the image information memory onto the storage medium in a distributed manner.

13. An image-information displaying method for an image-information display device including an image information memory for holding image information, the displaying method comprising:

- a step of obtaining attributes of image information regarding predetermined image data from an image-information file group in which the image information is recorded on a storage medium in a distributed manner and of holding the attributes in the image information memory;

- a step of prompting input of a search condition regarding an attribute of the image information and

receiving the input;

a step of searching the attributes held in the image information memory in accordance with the input search condition;

a step of obtaining representative images of the image data from the image-information file group in accordance with a result of the searching and of holding the representative images in the image information memory; and

a step of displaying a list of the representative images held in the image information memory.

14. A program for an image-information recording device including an image information memory for holding image information and means for recording, as an image-information file group, the image information onto a storage medium, wherein the image-information file group includes multiple representative image files that hold predetermined representative images of the image data, the program causing a computer to execute:

a step of obtaining, from predetermined image data, image information regarding the image data;

a step of storing the obtained image information in the image information memory; and

a step of recording, as the multiple representative image files, the representative images in the image information stored in the image information memory onto the

storage medium in a distributed manner.

15. A program for an image-information display device including an image information memory for holding image information, the program causing a computer to execute:

- a step of obtaining attributes of image information regarding predetermined image data from an image-information file group in which the image information is recorded on a storage medium in a distributed manner and of holding the attributes in the image information memory;

- a step of prompting input of a search condition regarding an attribute of the image information and receiving the input;

- a step of searching the attributes held in the image information memory in accordance with the input search condition;

- a step of obtaining representative images of the image data from the image-information file group in accordance with a result of the searching and of holding the representative images in the image information memory; and

- a step of displaying a list of the representative images held in the image information memory.